and Union Territories will achieve their targets for 1991-92.

(c) A list containing names and addresses of enlisted manufacturers of improved chulhas is given at Statement 'B'. [*See* Appendix CLXI, Annexure No. 66]

(d) Financial incentives, like, 100% rate of depreciation under the Income Tax Act, exemption from the Industrial Licensing, exemption from Central Excise are available to the manufacturers of improved portable chulhas. Some of the State Governments are also providing exemption/reduction in sales tax. For installation of fixed type of chulhas, Government meets entire cost of the chulha minus Rs. 15/- (beneficiary's contribution towards material cost and Supervisory Fee). For portable types of chulhas, the Central Government provides 50% subsidy to the General Category beneficiaries and 75% subsidy to the SC/ST/Hilly area beneficiaries.

(e) A list containing names and addresses of the Nodal Agencies for implementation of the National Programme on Improved Chulha is given at Statement 'C'. [*See* Appendix CLXI, Annexure No. 67]

Demands of DESU's Technical Staff

2763. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 3rd July, 1990 the then General Manager of Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking had signed an agreement regarding demands of Delhi Electric Supply Undertakings substation technical staff etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what steps taken/being taken to implement the demands agreed to; and

(d) what are the reasons for the delay in implementing the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d) According to DESU, no agreement had been signed on 3.7.1990 by the then General Manager, DESU on the demands of the DESU Technical Staff Association since it is not a recognised Association. However, the demands of the Association were noted by DESU for appropriate action.

Transfer of Power Transmission from NEEPCO to NPTC

2764. SHRI G.G. SWELL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the responsibility of transmission has been taken away from the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO) and handed over to National Power Transmission Corporation;

(b) the rationale for the decision and the advantages that will accrue thereby;

(c) whether there has been opposition to this from the management and employees of NEEPCO; and

(d) whether the Chairman of NEEPCO resigned on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The National Power Transmission Corporation has taken over the management of the transmission and associated substations of NTPC, NHPC and NEEPCO, for the purpose of operation, maintenance, construction, planning etc.

(b) The NPTC will undertake the programme of laying the transmission system and associated sub-stations in a coordinated and efficient manner with a view to move large blocks of power from various generating sources under the Central Sector to the Load Centres

within the region as well as across the regions with reliability, security and economy.

(c) The employees engaged in the transmission and associated works who have exercised irrevocable option for their transfer from NEEPCO to NPTC have been transferred to NPTC.

(d) No, Sir.

Kachchh Tidal Power Project

2765. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kachchh Tidal Power Project has been mooted and approved by Government; if so, when;

(b) what is the original estimate of the project and what is the schedule of its completion; and

(c) what is the present position of the project stating the reasons for delay in its being taking up and the estimated cost anticipated to rise by the time the project is taken up for implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The feasibility report for the Kachchh Tidal Power Project was first prepared in 1988. Subsequently, some additional investigations/studies were carried out and a supplementary feasibility report has been prepared in September, 1991. The project is to be posed by the national Hydro-electric Power Corporation for accord of techno-economic clearance by CEA.

(b) As per the original estimate given in the feasibility report in 1988, the cost of the project was estimated to be Rs. 1369.61 crores (including transmission system). The project was scheduled to be completed in 7 years from the date of commencement of work.

(c) The project proposal, based on the feasibility report prepared by Central Electricity Authority, is being processed by NHPC for being posed for accord of techno-economic clearance by CEA. Since this was the first project of its kind to be investigated in India, and the investigations/studies were complex in nature, these took a long time for completion. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 2955.06 crores (including transmission system) at December, 1990 price level.

Power Shortage After Eighth Plan

2766. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Business and Political Observer of the 9th November, 1991, regarding continuance of power shortage even after the Eighth Plan; and

(b) if so, what remedial steps Government propose to take to overcome the difficulties in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Given the financial and other constraints, it would not be possible to totally climinate power shortages by the end of the 8th Five Year Plan.

Number of Power Projects Approved for Uttar Pradesh

2767. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of power projects approved for Uttar Pradesh during last two years; and